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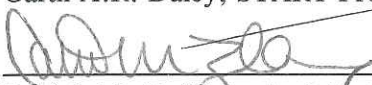
**LETTER REPORT
FOR
FORRESTVILLE AVENUE MERCURY SPILL
CHICAGO, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
TDD: S05-0006-001
PAN: 0N0101RZXX**

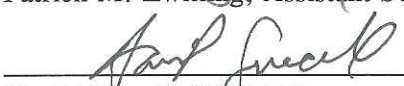
July 10, 2000

Prepared for:

**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Emergency Response Branch
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, Illinois 60604**

Prepared by:  Date: 7/10/00
Garth A.R. Daley, START Project Manager

Reviewed by:  Date: 7/10/00
Patrick M. Zwilling, Assistant START Program Manager

Approved by:  Date: 7/10/00
Daniel Sewall, START Program Manager



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July 10, 2000

Ms. Gail Nabasny, START Project Officer
United States Environmental Protection Agency
77 West Jackson Boulevard - SE-5J
Chicago, Illinois 60604

Re: Forrestville Avenue Mercury Spill
Chicago, Cook County, Illinois
TDD: S05-0006-001
PAN: 0N0101RZXX

Dear Ms. Nabasny:

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) tasked the Ecology and Environment, Inc. (E & E), Superfund Technical Assessment and Response Team (START) to provide emergency response support for the Forrestville Avenue Mercury Spill (Forrestville Avenue) site under Technical Direction Document (TDD) S05-0006-001. Among the tasks completed by START were preparing and implementing a site specific health and safety plan; performing air monitoring activities; and collecting photographic and written documentation of site activities and conditions. The site is a

NON-RESPONSIVE

in the City of Chicago, Cook County, Illinois. Geographic coordinates for the site are NON-RESPONSIVE (Attachment A, Figure 1). The site is located in a residential neighborhood, and is bordered by residences to the north, south and east; and by South Forrestville Avenue to the west. Photodocumentation collected at the site is presented as Attachment B.

On June 1, 2000, the City of Chicago's Department of Environment requested that U.S. EPA respond to the site, evaluate a mercury spill, and, if necessary, initiate a removal action. U.S. EPA Federal On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) Kenneth Theisen and START member Garth Daley arrived at the site at approximately 1330 hours and, after initiating the Jerome 431-X mercury vapor analyzer (MVA), performed a preliminary reconnaissance of the site (Attachment A, Figure 2). This reconnaissance included OSC Theisen interviewing NON-RESPONSIVE a resident of the apartment, to determine how the spill occurred. NON-RESPONSIVE told OSC Theisen that NON-RESPONSIVE had accidentally dropped a blood pressure cuff at approximately 2000 hours on May 31, 2000, while returning the device to NON-RESPONSIVE bedroom. Mercury from the broken device leaked into the spaces between the floorboards of the bedroom floor. NON-RESPONSIVE covered the spill area using garbage bags and contacted the City of Chicago's Department of Environment to report the incident. Following the interview, NON-RESPONSIVE directed U.S. EPA and START to the spill location. START then used the MVA to perform air monitoring throughout the apartment (Attachment A, Figure 3). Based on the inaccessibility of the spilled mercury (between the floorboards), the levels of mercury vapor detected immediately above the spill location, the presence of children in the residence and NON-RESPONSIVE

NON-RESPONSIVE

OSC Theisen determined that a removal action was necessary (Attachment C). An Emergency and Rapid Response Service (ERRS) contractor was contacted and scheduled to initiate

the necessary removal activities on June 2, 2000. In preparation for removal activities, U.S. EPA and START used duct tape to seal both doors leading into the affected bedroom and opened the bedroom windows to afford overnight ventilation.

On June 2, 2000, OSCs Theisen and Thomas Cook, Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) member Louise Fabinski, and START Daley returned to the site in response to a telephone call to U.S. EPA from a person claiming to be the building owner. The person alleged that the spill had been remediated and directed U.S. EPA not to return to the site. U.S. EPA and START arrived on site at approximately 1210 hours, but were unable to access the site. Subsequently, ATSDR Fabinski left an informational package for [REDACTED] in an attempt to convince her to contact U.S. EPA to arrange for proper remediation of the mercury release.

Despite ATSDR Fabinski having left several telephone messages, as of June 19, 2000, [REDACTED] has not contacted either OSC Theisen or ATSDR Fabinski. U.S. EPA has determined that no additional removal activities will be performed at the site unless requested by the resident or Chicago Department of Environment.

The preparation of this Letter Report serves as the final deliverable for this TDD. Please contact this office should any additional information on this site be needed.

Sincerely,



Garth A.R. Daley
START Project Manager



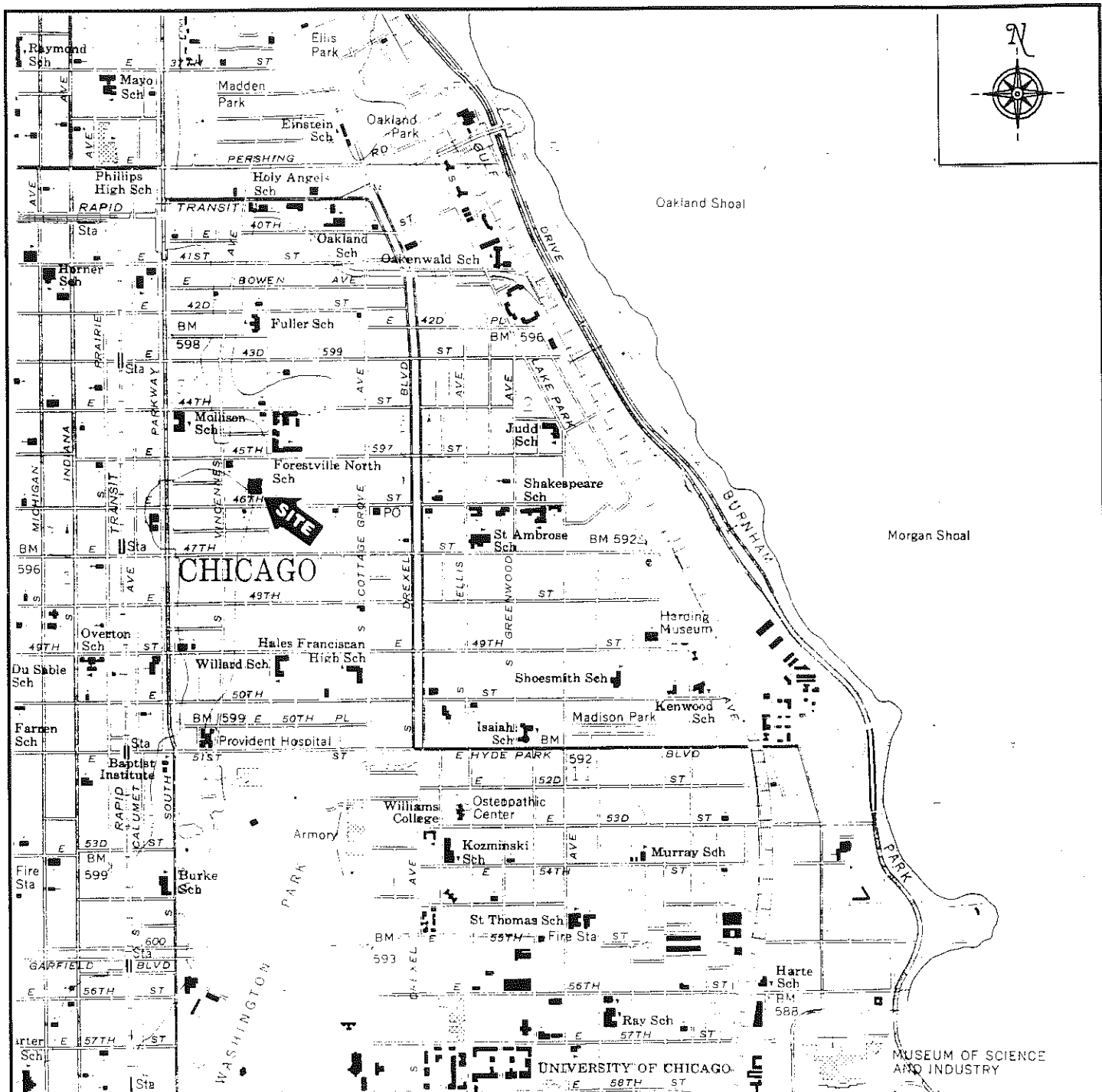
Daniel Sewall
START Program Manager

Attachment: A - Figures
 B - Photodocumentation
 C- Summary Table of Air Monitoring Locations and Readings

cc: K. Theisen, U.S. EPA OSC
 START TDD file - S05-0006-001

Attachment A

Figures



Quadrangle Location



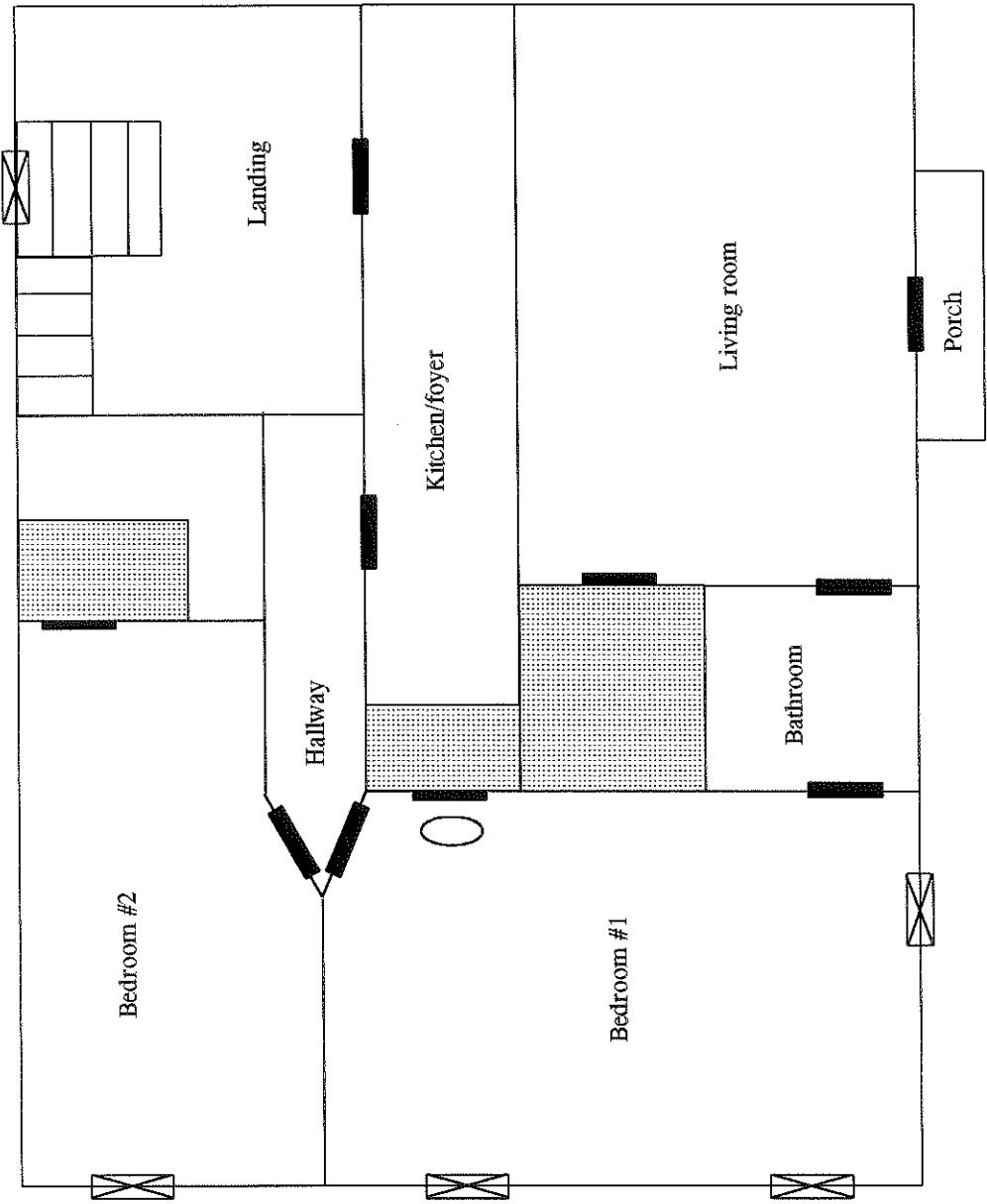
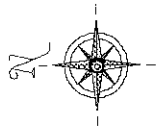
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Superfund Technical Assessment and Response Team

Region 5

33 North Dearborn Street, Suite 900, Chicago, Illinois 60602

TITLE		FIGURE	
Site Location Map		1	
SITE		SCALE	
Forrestville Avenue Mercury Spill		1:24,000	
CITY	STATE	TDD	
Chicago	Illinois	S05-0006-001	
SOURCE		DATE	
		1963	
		REVISED	
		1972	

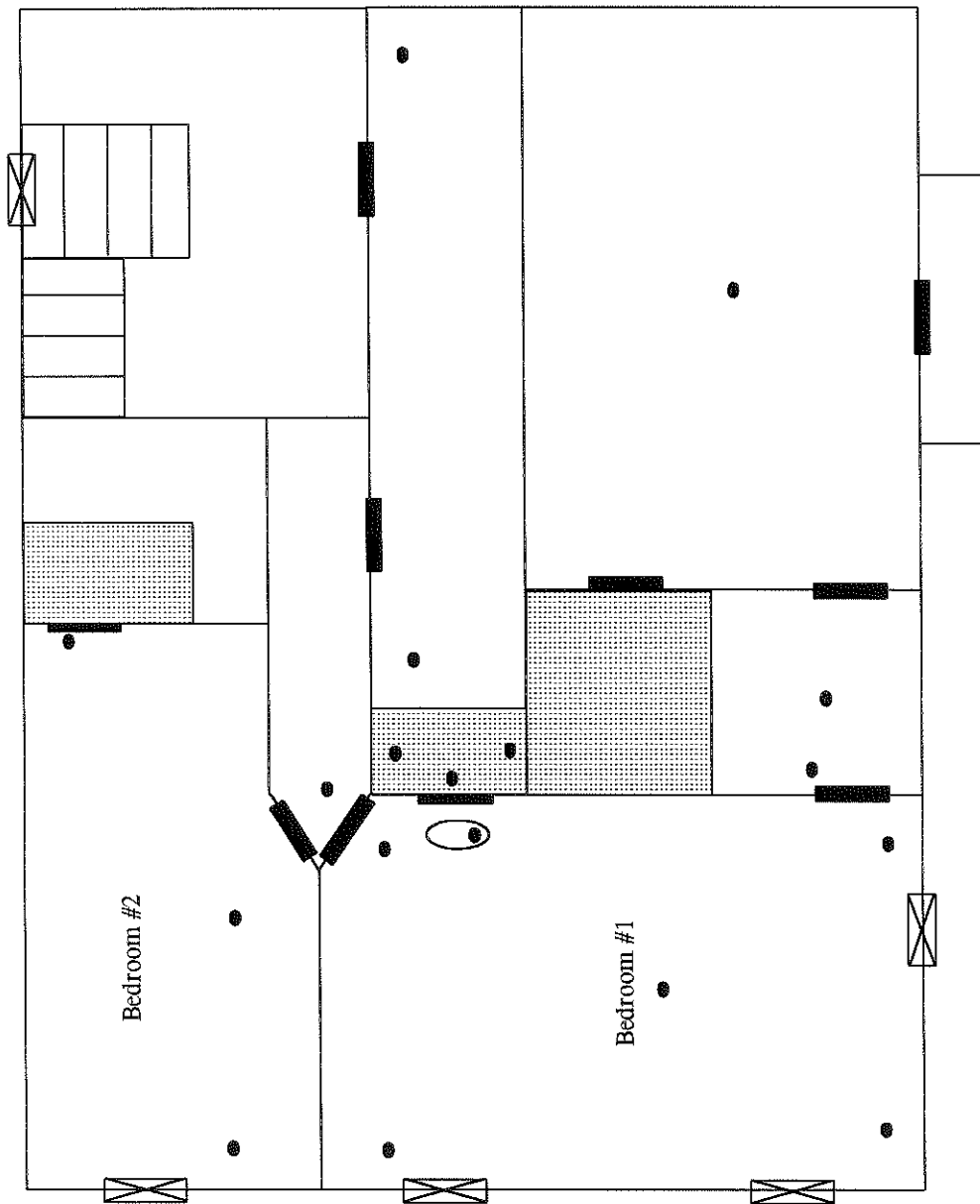
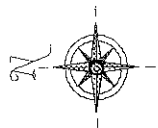


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 Superfund Technical Assessment and Response Team
 Region 5
 33 North Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois 60602

Legend

- Door
- Window
- Spill area
- Closet
- Stairway

Title	Site Features Map	Figure	2
Site	Forrestville Avenue Mercury Spill	Scale	Not to scale
City	Chicago	TBD	S05-0006-001
State	Illinois	Date	July 2000
Source	Ecology and Environment, Inc.		



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Superfund Technical Assessment and Response Team

Region 5

33 North Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois 60602



Title	Air Monitoring Location Map	Figure	3
Site	Forrestville Avenue Mercury Spill	Scale	Not to scale
City	Chicago	State	Illinois
Source	Ecology and Environment, Inc.	TDD	S05-0006-001
		Date	July 2000

Legend

● Air monitoring location

Attachment B

Photodocumentation



Site: Forrestville Ave. Mercury **Date:** June 1, 2000 **Time:** 1340
Location: Chicago, IL **Direction:** Southwest **Photographer:** K. Theisen (U.S. EPA)
Subject: Bedroom #1/spill location.



Site: Forrestville Ave. Mercury **Date:** June 1, 2000 **Time:** 1342
Location: Chicago, IL **Direction:** Down **Photographer:** K. Theisen (U.S. EPA)
Subject: Spill location with mercury droplets between floorboards.



Site: Forrestville Ave. Mercury **Date:** June 1, 2000 **Time:** 1345
Location: Chicago, IL **Direction:** Down **Photographer:** K. Theisen (U.S. EPA)
Subject: Bagged broken blood pressure cuff atop garbage bags covering spill area.



Site: Forrestville Ave. Mercury **Date:** June 1, 2000 **Time:** 1352
Location: Chicago, IL **Direction:** West **Photographer:** K. Theisen (U.S. EPA)
Subject: START monitoring for mercury vapors in bedroom #1.

Attachment C

Summary Table of Air Monitoring Locations and Readings

MERCURY VAPOR AIR MONITORING RESULTS
FORRESTVILLE AVENUE MERCURY SPILL
NON- RESPONSIVE
CHICAGO, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
JUNE 1, 2000

Units - mg/m³

Time	Reading	Location
1345	0.009	Entrance/northeast corner of bedroom #1 (before spill area uncovered).
	0.014	Southeast corner of bedroom #1 (before spill area uncovered).
	0.014	Southwest corner of bedroom #1 (before spill area uncovered).
	0.010	Northwest corner of bedroom #1 (before spill area uncovered).
	0.109	Garbage bag above spill location (before spill area uncovered).
	0.889	Spill area (floor level).
1355	0.044	Entrance/northeast corner of bedroom #1 (after spill area uncovered).
	0.024	Southeast corner of bedroom #1 (after spill area uncovered).
	0.024	Southwest corner of bedroom #1 (after spill area uncovered).
	0.044	Northwest corner of bedroom #1 (after spill area uncovered).
	0.037	North end of closet at northeast corner of bedroom #1.
	0.044	Entrance to closet at northeast corner of bedroom #1.
	0.057	South end of closet at northeast corner of bedroom #1.
	0.836	Spill area (floor level).
1400	0.015	Entrance/southeast corner of bedroom #2.
	0.014	Closet/northeast corner of bedroom #2.
	0.015	Southwest corner of bedroom #2.
1415	0.008	Hallway from kitchen to bedrooms.
	0.005	Northwest corner of kitchen.
	0.000	Center of living room (floor level).
	0.000	Center of living room.
		Northeast corner of kitchen (tabletop where broken blood pressure cuff was kept overnight).
	0.009	
	0.019	Bathroom (floor level at door leading to bedroom #1).
	0.004	Bathroom.
1420	0.055	Bathroom (floor level at door leading to bedroom #1).
	0.009	Bathroom.
	0.013	Center of living room (floor level).
1545	0.007	Entrance/southeast corner of bedroom #2.
	0.007	Northeast corner of bedroom #2.
	0.007	Southwest corner of bedroom #2.
	0.005	Hallway from kitchen to bedrooms.
	0.000	Kitchen.
	0.000	Center of living room.
	0.004	Bathroom.
	0.012	Bathroom (floor level at door leading to bedroom #1).

Key:

mg/m³ = Milligrams per meter cubed.

Notes:

1. Unless otherwise noted, all air monitoring readings were collected in breathing zone.
2. Bedroom #1 contains the spill location. Bedroom #2 is across the hall from bedroom #1.
3. The spill area was covered by plastic garbage bags by the residents prior to U.S. EPA arrival onsite.
4. Gaps under interior doors allow for migrating of mercury vapors between rooms.

Source: Ecology and Environment, Inc. logbook.